

Alberta Economy

Indicators at a Glance

Real GDP by Industry

In 2013, Alberta's real GDP by industry grew by 3.9%, the third-strongest growth rate among the provinces and the fourth consecutive year of robust growth. Nationally, real GDP rose 2.0% in 2013, a slight improvement over 2012.

Population

As of July 1, 2014 Alberta's population was estimated at 4,121,692, a 2.9% increase from one year prior. Nationally, population grew 1.1% from a year ago.

Migration

Total net migration to Alberta was 25,757 in the second quarter of 2014. Alberta added 12,553 international migrants and 13,204 interprovincial migrants.

Employment¹

In September, 21,200 more jobs were created Alberta, 2.4% more than a year ago. Alberta has added 54,200 jobs over the last twelve months, the most jobs added among the provinces.

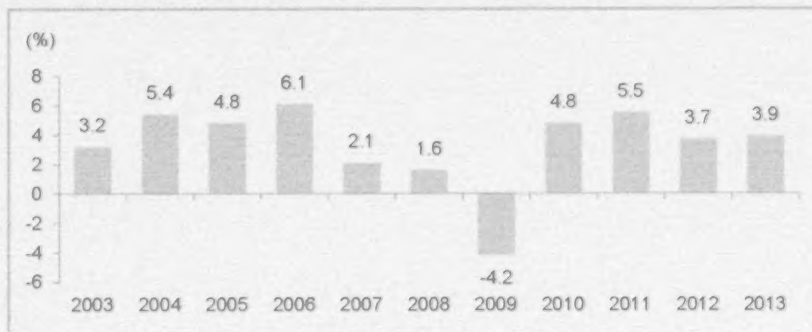
Unemployment¹

Alberta's unemployment rate decreased by 0.5 percentage points to 4.4% in September, reversing last months increase. Alberta has the second lowest unemployment rate in the country.

Rigs Drilling

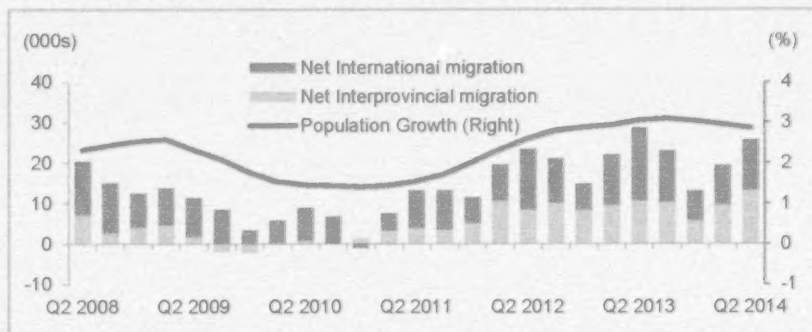
The average number of active rigs in Alberta was 265 in October, a 10.9% increase from a year prior. Rig activity is up 7.8% year-to-date.

Real GDP by Industry (Basic Prices)
Annual, year-over-year % change



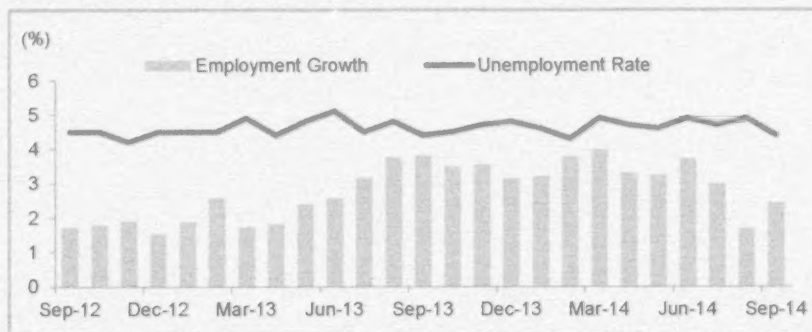
Source: Statistics Canada

Demographics
Quarterly, population is year-over-year % change



Source: Statistics Canada

Labour Market
Monthly, employment is year-over-year % change



Source: Statistics Canada

Inflation

Consumer Price Index (CPI) Inflation remained unchanged at 2.6% in September. Shelter inflation is still high at 3.4%, lifting inflation.

Average Weekly Earnings¹

Average Weekly Earnings (AWE) reached \$1,165 in August, a 0.8% increase from July and 5.1% from August 2013. National average weekly earnings increased 0.1% from July to \$943.30.

Retail Sales¹

Retail sales totaled \$6.6 billion in August up 8.0% year over year. Growth was broadbased among retailers, with significant growth from sales at gasoline stations, and sporting goods, hobby and book stores.

Housing Starts

The number of housing starts in September was 47,093 Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rate (SAAR), 50.7% more than a year ago. Year-to-date, starts are up 18.0%.

New Housing Price Index

The New Housing Price Index in Alberta increased 3.2% y/y in August, with Calgary house prices increasing 6.8%, while Edmonton slid 0.1% lower.

Building Permits¹

The total value of building permits increased 31.4% y/y in August to \$1.8 billion. Residential permits led growth, up 34.4%, while non-residential permits increased 27.3%.

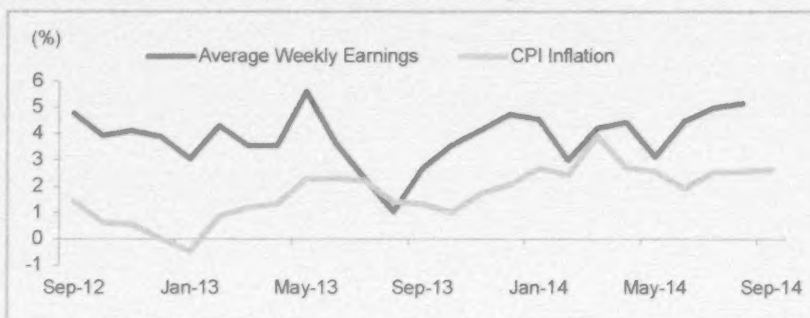
¹ Seasonally adjusted

Contact

Warren Kirkland

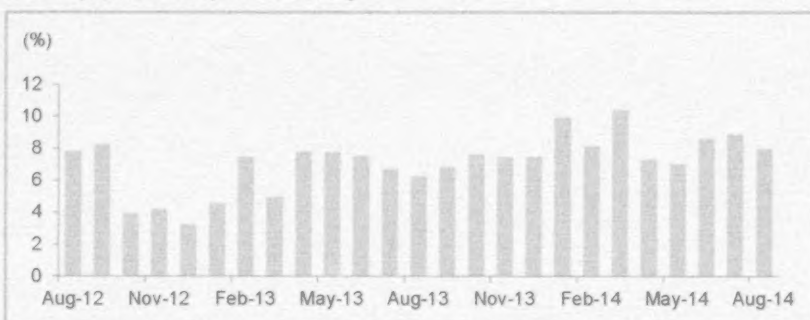
780.427.8845

Inflation and Earnings
Monthly, CPI and AWE, year-over-year % change



Source: Statistics Canada

Retail Sales
Monthly, year-over-year % change



Source: Statistics Canada

Housing Market
Monthly

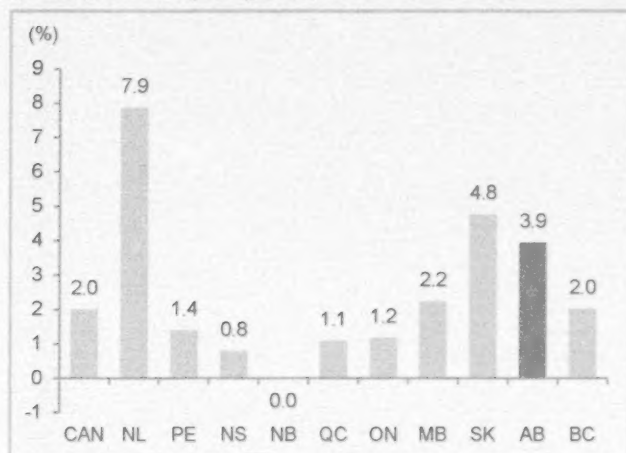


Source: Statistics Canada

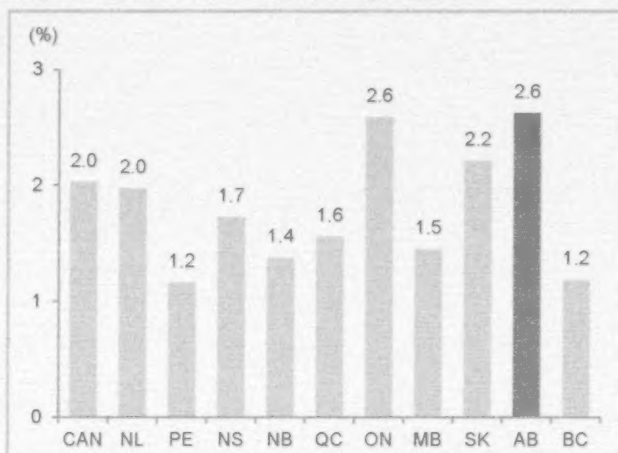
	Canadian Dollar (US\$/SCAN)	WTI Oil (\$US/bbl)	NYMEX Natural Gas (\$US/MMBtu)	Alberta Reference Price (\$C/GJ)
Latest (October 30, 2014)	89.34	81.12	3.83	3.98 (July)
Fiscal year-to-date	91.41	97.80	4.19	4.14

Please see the [Weekly Economic Review](#) for current analysis on the Alberta economy.

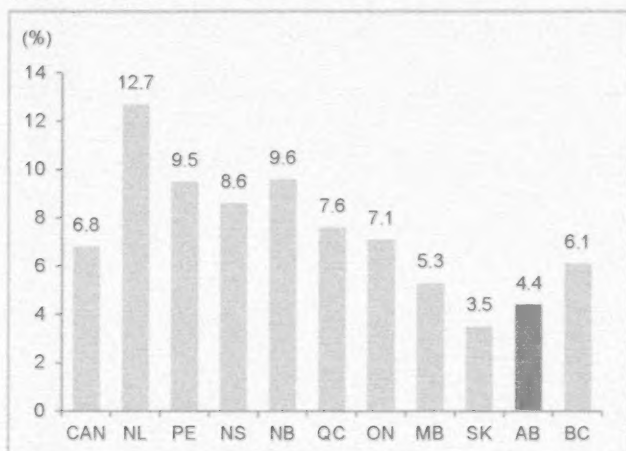
Real GDP by Industry (Basic Prices)
(2013, year-over-year growth)



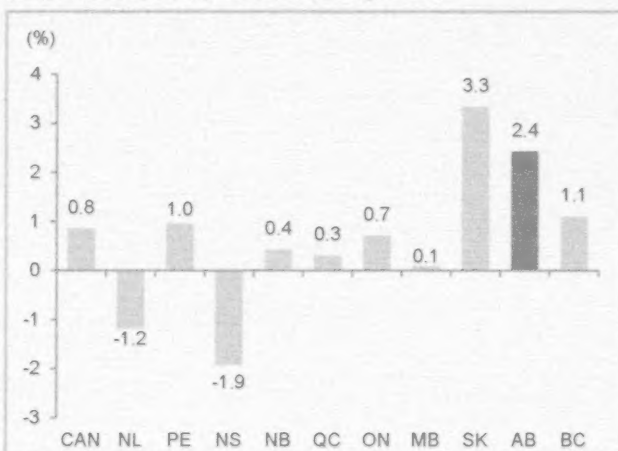
CPI Inflation
(September 2014, year-over-year growth)



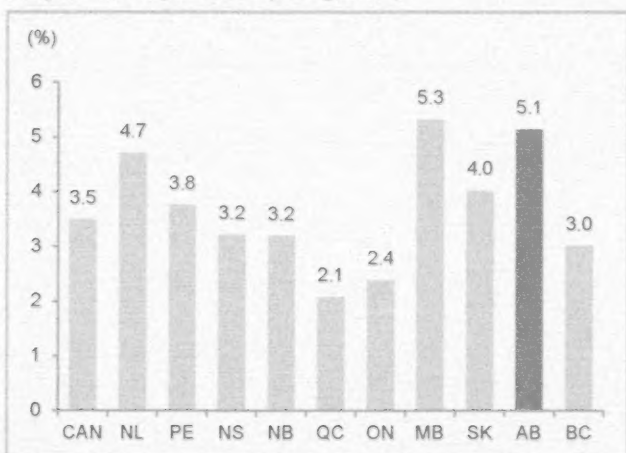
Unemployment Rate
(September 2014)



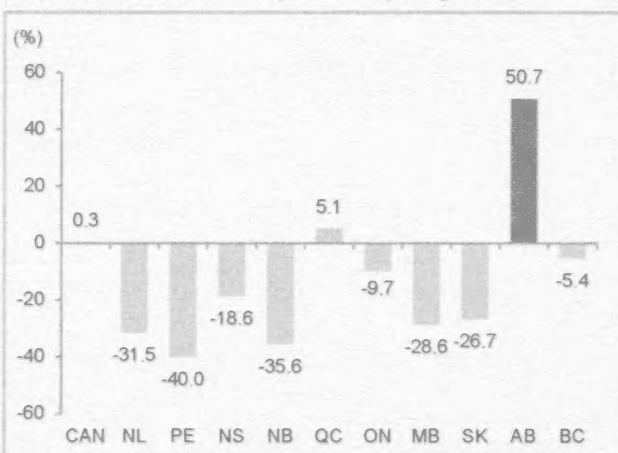
Employment
(September 2014, year-over-year growth)



Average Weekly Earnings
(August 2014, year-over-year growth)



Housing Starts
(September 2014, SAAR, year-over-year growth)



Alberta Economic Indicators

Population ¹	2012	2013	2014YTD	May-14	Jun-14	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14
Population (thousands)	3,889	4,007	4,122			4,122			
y/y % change	2.6	3.0	2.9			2.9			
Net Interprovincial Migration	27,652	38,536	36,717			13,204			
Net International Migration	40,043	48,116	42,478			12,553			
Labour Market									
Employment (thousands, SA)	2,150	2,211	2,270	2,275	2,284	2,283	2,269	2,290	
m/m change (thousands)				16.4	9.4	-1.5	-13.4	21.2	
y/y % change	2.7	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.7	3.0	1.7	2.4	
Unemployment Rate (% SA)	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.9	4.7	4.9	4.4	
Participation Rate (% SA)	73.4	73.1	72.9	73.0	73.2	72.8	72.4	72.5	
Average Weekly Earnings (\$ SA)	1,070.54	1,108.01	1,144.94	1,150.61	1,150.30	1,155.54	1,164.88		
y/y % change	3.5	3.5	4.2	3.1	4.5	5.0	5.1		
Household Sector									
Retail Sales (\$ million, SA)	66,408	73,109	62,264	6,518	6,623	6,644	6,614		
y/y % change	7.0	6.9	8.5	7.0	8.6	8.9	8.0		
New Vehicle Sales (units, thousands)	248	263	185	26.7	25.6	26.7	25.0		
y/y % change	10.5	6.2	3.6	0.8	5.4	16.7	6.0		
Consumer Price Index (y/y % change)	1.1	1.4	2.7	2.5	1.9	2.5	2.6	2.6	
Excluding Food & Energy	1.3	1.4	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.3	2.7	2.7	
Housing Starts (SAAR, 600's)	33.4	36.0	41.2	33.8	54.0	37.5	44.2	47.1	
y/y % change	29.9	7.8	18.0	20.0	41.9	5.0	50.4	50.7	
New Housing Price Index (y/y % change)	1.3	2.8	3.4	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.2		
Resale Home Sales	60,369	66,080	53,466	6,211	6,099	6,021	6,305	6,110	
y/y % change	12.3	9.5	8.3	14.7	7.7	5.6	6.9	3.6	
Sales to New Listing Ratio	0.59	0.64	0.65	0.65	0.64	0.64	0.66	0.68	
MLS Average Resale Prices (\$ thousands)	362	380	398	395	398	397	403	403	
y/y % change	2.6	5.0	5.3	5.2	5.4	4.9	3.8	5.2	
Consumer Bankruptcies (level)	5,759	4,689	2,653	369	329	296	289		
y/y % change	-18.1	-18.6	-20.2	-15.0	-12.3	-23.1	-23.7		
Business Sector									
Goods Exports (customs based, \$ million)	95,873	103,639	80,891	10,123	9,724	10,273	8,654		
y/y % change	2.8	8.1	19.6	18.5	25.9	17.3	13.1		
Energy Products (\$ million)	68,677	76,340	60,518	7,322	7,135	7,726	7,105		
y/y % change	3.6	11.2	22.5	17.6	26.5	17.4	11.1		
Agricultural Products (\$ million)	6,795	6,182	4,923	720	664	606	642		
y/y % change	20.6	-9.0	-21.3	-21.2	-9.3	-44.4	71.4		
Rigs Drilling	250	235	251	115	150	229	254	278	265
y/y % change	-12.6	-5.9	7.8	29.7	29.7	22.7	6.5	10.9	10.9
Manufacturing Shipments (\$ million)	71,675	73,793	53,101	6,576	6,928	6,872	6,679		
y/y % change	2.6	3.0	8.9	7.9	13.6	9.8	4.8		
Wholesale Trade (\$ million)	76,841	78,605	55,838	6,963	7,147	7,140	7,147		
y/y % change	10.8	2.3	7.2	8.8	10.7	6.6	8.4		
Building Permits (\$ million, SA)	14,663	17,262	12,160	1,518	1,716	1,724	1,771		
y/y % change	14.8	17.7	6.0	7.5	25.8	5.1	31.4		
Residential Permits (\$ million, SA)	8,287	9,859	7,051	860	865	917	1,044		
y/y % change	18.2	19.0	13.7	1.1	13.2	12.3	34.4		
Non-Residential Permits (\$ million, SA)	6,376	7,403	5,109	658	861	807	727		
y/y % change	10.7	16.1	-3.0	17.3	41.0	-2.1	27.3		
Non-Res. Building Cons. Price Index ² (y/y % change)	3.8	1.2	1.9		2.0				
Business Bankruptcies	230	137	67	13	3	7	11		
y/y % change	-12.9	-40.4	-23.0	18.2	-66.7	-22.2	57.1		

¹ Quarterly; annual numbers are presented on a census year basis (July 1 - June 30)

² Quarterly, average of Calgary and Edmonton

YTD YTD (year-to-date). "SA" denotes seasonally adjusted. "SAAR" denotes seasonally adjusted at annual rate

Sources: All data are from Statistics Canada except Housing Starts (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation), MLS Average Resale Prices (Canada Real Estate Association), Rigs Drilling (Canadian Association of Oilwell Drilling Contractors) and Bankruptcies (office of the superintendent of Bankruptcy)

All historical data are subject to revision